(b) if so, the details of this organisation with its functions and sources of its finance ;

(c) the achievements of the organisation so far ;

(d) whether members of the organisation are being paid bonus also every year; besides other fringe benefits ;

(e) whether members of the organisation have been touring different places after short interval taking benefit of railway passes, special leaves and making use of Official funds ;

(f) whether cases of occupation of reserved berths of passengers by them during their tours have come to the notice of Government ; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Railway Board Bharat Scouts and Guides Association which is a 'District' unit, affiliated to the Northern Railway State Bharat Scouts & Guides, is working in the Board's office. Its main function is to render selfless service connected with humanitarian activities. The Association is given financial assistance from the Staff Benefit Fund.

(c) to (e) The members of the Association participate in activities events sponsored/organised by the Northern Railway State Bharat Scouts & Guides Organisation. They are granted special casual leave and special passes as per extant instructions. The participants have rendered humanitarian services during natural calamities etc. No bonus is being paid to any member of the organisation.

(f) No such case has come to notice.

(g) Does not arise.

SAFETY MEASURES FOR PUMPING OF CRUDE OIL TO COCHIN REFINERIES

1023. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the safety measures taken for pumping of the crude oil from the oil terminal to the Cochin Refineries ;

(b) the safety measures taken in the Cochin Refineries ; and

(c) the number of accidents occurred in Cochin Refineries during the last three years and the loss incurred ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) Various safety measures such as Cathodic protection of pipeline, safety audits, use of necessary safety equipment, effective supervision etc. have been adopted. Two accidents leading to damage of property worth Rs. 5 lakhs have taken place in last 3 years.

MODERNISATION OF COCHIN AIRPORT

1024. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposal to modernise Cochin Airport ; and

(b) If so, the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

RAIL LINK FROM NEW COOCH-BEHAR TO DHUBRI

1025. SHRI NURUL ISLAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand for broad-gauge line from New Cooch-Behar Fakiragram to Dhubri ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.